

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

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O 202018Z MAY 77 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7462
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2288

STATE FOR A AND ARA

WHITE HOUSE FOR MARY HOYT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, CS
SUBJECT: PLANNING FOR MRS. CARTER'S VISIT: DISCUSSIONS WITH
PRESIDENT ODUBER AND JOINT COMMUNIQUE

1. TENTATIVE PROGRAM
OF ACTIVITIES ALLOWS ONLY ONE HOUR

OR SO FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN
MRS. CARTER AND PRESIDENT ODUBER. IN VIEW OF BREVITY
OF DISCUSSIONS AND SINCE ADVANCES PARTY INDICATED THAT
IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO HAVE JUNE 1 RELEASE OF
JOINT COMMUNIQUE COVERING MAJOR POINTS OF DISCUSSIONS,
EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT INFORMAL AGENDA BE WORKED OUT
IN ADVANCE WITH GOCR.

2. IN CHARGE'S MOST RECENT TALK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
FACIO RE SPECIFIC TOPICS THAT GOCR MIGHT EXPECT TO BE
COVERED IN THE DISCUSSIONS, FACIO MENTIONED HUMAN RIGHTS,
PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS, US-CUBAN DISCUSSIONS,
PROSPECTS FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT,
AND CARTER ADMINISTRATION TRADE POLICY. HE ALSO
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SUGGESTED A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN THE CARIBBEAN,
CENTRAL AMERICA, AND SOUTH AMERICA AND US POLICY APPROACH
TO THOSE AREAS. FACIO SAID THAT SINCE THERE ARE NO
SERIOUS OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS BETWEEN COSTA RICA AND THE
US, HE DID NOT EXPECT DISCUSSIONS TO FOCUS ON BILATERAL
ISSUES.

3. EMBASSY AGREES THAT THERE ARE NO SERIOUS BILATERAL ISSUES TO BE WORKED OUT DURING MRS. CARTER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT ODUBER AND BELIEVES THAT FACIO'S SUGGESTED LIST OF TOPICS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. HOWEVER, WE RECOMMEND FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS OF BILATERAL NATURE BE MADE DURING DISCUSSIONS AND COVERED IN COMMUNIQUE:

(A) THAT THE USG RECOGNIZES AND ADMIRES COSTA RICA'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC GROWTH WITH SOCIAL EQUITY AND INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A BILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO HELP COSTA RICA ATTAIN ITS DEVELOPMENTAL OBJECTIVES; (B) THAT PURSUANT TO (A) ABOVE AND WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT THAT THE USG WILL MAKE SWKTNLITE TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE TO THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA, THE US HAS RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO A COSTA RICAN REQUEST TO INITIATE A REMOTE-SENSING PROGRAM IN COSTA RICA (THIS HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED YET). THIS WILL ENABLE THE GOCR TO MEASURE PRECISELY THE RATE OF DEFORESTATION OCCURRING IN THE COUNTRY IN ORDER THAT THE GOCR MIGHT DEVELOP A SUITABLE CONSERVATION PROGRAM AND A NATURAL RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM.

4. EMBASSY ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT HUMAN RIGHTS PORTION OF DISCUSSIONS AND COMMUNIQUE TOUCH ON COSTA RICAN PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH POSITION OF UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESIDENT CARTER'S ENDORSEMENT OF THAT PROPOSAL, AND DESIRE OF US TO WORK CLOSELY WITH COSTA RICA AT UNGA TO MUSTER BROAD SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD HAVE VERY FAVORABLE IMPACT
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HERE IF MRS. CARTER WERE TO SUGGEST THAT A HIGH-LEVEL US TEAM VISIT COSTA RICA TO WORK OUT JOINT STRATEGY FOR HANDLING OF HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS AT UNGA.

5. FINALLY, DISCUSSIONS AND COMMUNIQUE MIGHT COVER SOME OF THE SPECIFICS, AS THEY RELATE TO COSTA RICA, OF ANY NEW CULTURAL EXCHANGE EFFORTS US IS PLANNING PURSUANT TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S OAS SPEECH. IF, AS EMBASSY HAS RECOMMENDED, USG IS GOING TO INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY NUMBER OF GRADUATE-LEVEL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO COSTA RICAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS AND ADMINISTRATORS, THIS WOULD BE EXCELLENT OCCASION TO INFORM GOCR AND COSTA RICAN PUBLIC.

6. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS RE PREPARATION OF INFORMAL AGENDA FOR DISCUSSIONS.
KILDAY

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